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the eighteenth century, when it was superseded by a system of providing the Indians with seeds, food, tools, and work animals by the *alcaldes mayores*. The actual practices of the *encomienda* and the *alcalde* system are the direct forerunners of the perpetual debt system which characterizes modern peonage. These criticisms are not intended to belittle the real value of much of the material contained in the three volumes, notably in *The People of Mexico*. In the latter work the discussion of the vitality of the Mexican people, their religion and their actual programs, are amongst the most valuable parts. It is in such chapters as these that the book rises from the position of documentary record of the disappointment experienced by foreigners in Mexico at the ill success of their program of development of natural resources, and becomes a genuine contribution to the study of Mexican economic and political conditions.

HERBERT INGRAM PRIESTLEY.

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California Trails, Intimate Guide to the old Missions. By TROWBRIDGE HALL. (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1920. Pp. (10), 243. Illustrations. \$2.50.)

The historical parts of this interesting volume are taken mainly from Bancroft, Hittell, and Engelhardt, who the author says in his "foreword" practically exhaust all original sources—thus ignoring (let us hope unwittingly) all the careful, conscientious work of the present California historical school, which has unearthed much that is new and made more intimate and detailed much that is told by its predecessors. However, history serves here a minor part, playing, indeed, if the simile be permitted, somewhat the same role as the chorus in the Greek play. It is the thread upon which is strung something of the story of the California missions.

This account of the missions and El Camino Real (the Royal Road) of old Spanish days is, as might be expected, conceived and executed in an artistic manner. The author has made use of the striking events connected with the founding and life of the missions, rightly weaving his story about the founders, unto whose thoughts and purposes he enters with an easy tolerance that lends charm to the narrative. Fact is interspersed with legend in such a manner that no page of the book is dull or uninviting. Old Spanish days, which still give an aroma to the present in many parts of California, are contrasted with the present at every instant. Clearly this is a book to be read without too critical an eye on details but for the mere enjoyment thereof.

For if truth be told, the old economic order fathered by the missions had to disappear, much as that may be regretted, if the spirit of progress and initiative was to come to this unrivaled district. The part played by the missionaries in the history of California must always be remembered, for it was basic. One must not forget, however, that the missions were only a part of the Spanish policy in the colonies, and that the history of the colonies is to be judged by a consideration of all the factors. The missions bred up a surrounding that depended solely upon them. The moment any disaster struck any mission, that moment its careful and enthusiastic work fell to pieces. Thus, the native populations that had been so sedulously gathered and trained by the missionaries, melted away as soon as the Mexican government, the inheritor of Spain in this region, secularized the missions. The vast herds and flocks of the missionaries were dissipated, and solitude overtook the land which men like Junipero Serra, that ardent and heroic missionary, had appraised with more than the usual keenness. In their place has grown up a new order that is less romantic, it is true, but vastly more full of meaning to the world at large, made possible, however largely because of the blazing of the way by the Spanish soldiers and missionaries. The present civilization fortunately, has set about preserving, though too late perhaps, in some instances, what is left of the old missions in California—paradoxical as it may seem the practical age is full of that idealism that tends to preserve something of the former romanticism.

Mr. Hall takes us along *el Camino Real*, to all the missions in turn, starting in at San Diego de Alcalá and ending at Sonoma. The Royal Road he says, could once be traveled by any person, rich or poor, without the expense of a single penny, and a charming picture is drawn of the hospitality of the missions. The picture is much the same as that of the missions in the Philippines down to the last days of Spanish occupation (1898), but there, as in California, a better economic system has sprung up. The descriptions of the life of the natives about the missions, the protecting care of the missionaries, and their canny dealings with them in the matter of work are well portrayed. Old customs of Spaniards and Indians are described vividly.

The illustrations really illustrate and add to the charm of the book. The text is marred by several errors in proofreading. It is to be hoped that the misspelling of the word "Stanford" (p. 213) both as applied to the man and to the University comes under this heading, especially since the author dates his foreword at Pasadena. On page 234, Father

Altimira, the founder of the last mission, that of Sonoma, is spoken of as "an experienced and conceited young friar", and on the following page he is called a Jesuit—an inconsistency which is inexcusable. However, the book is well worth reading, even by Californians who are supposed to know something of the history and present charm of the old missions which it is to be hoped will long be preserved as one of the attractions of the great state of California.

JAMES A. ROBERTSON.

Foreign Trade Markets and Methods. By CLAYTON SEDGWICK COOPER. (New York and Boston: D. Appleton and Company, 1922. Pp. xv, 440. Illustrations; index. \$3.50.)

As well as "the how" and "the where" of foreign trade, Mr. Cooper in this volume pays considerable attention "to the peoples themselves with whom we are dealing and with whom our international commercial relations are certain to be increasingly intimate as the years pass". That is to say, the book is partly technical and partly descriptive and analytical.

Of its twenty-nine chapters, two (27 and 28) treat of Hispanic America and one (18) of the Philippines. Chapter 27, "Caribbean markets", discusses: proximity a factor in overseas commerce; Mexican resources; export and import conditions; Cuba: the world's sugar bowl; an increasingly large market for the United States; markets with Porto Rico, Haiti and San Domingo; American business-hold upon the Central American republics; the land of the banana; an example of American vision and industry in Central America in industrial production. Chapter 28, "Winning South American trade", contains material on the following: How alone South American trade can be won; assistance of the Webb Law and Edge Act to American manufacturers; The Panama Canal as a vital factor; service and capital as prime requirements; foreign investments and accomplishments in South America; reasons for South American dependence upon foreign initiative; chief products of South American export; things that South America imports; meeting European competition; following up the admiration gained for us by South America during the war; careful attention to details in adjusting business with South America. The chapter on the Philippines "Trade possibilities and industrial progress in the Philippines", treats of the westernization of the Philippines; chief exports and imports; results of the war; trade schools; transportation facilities required; labor problems; difficulties of long range legislation for the Philippines; the American political dilemma.